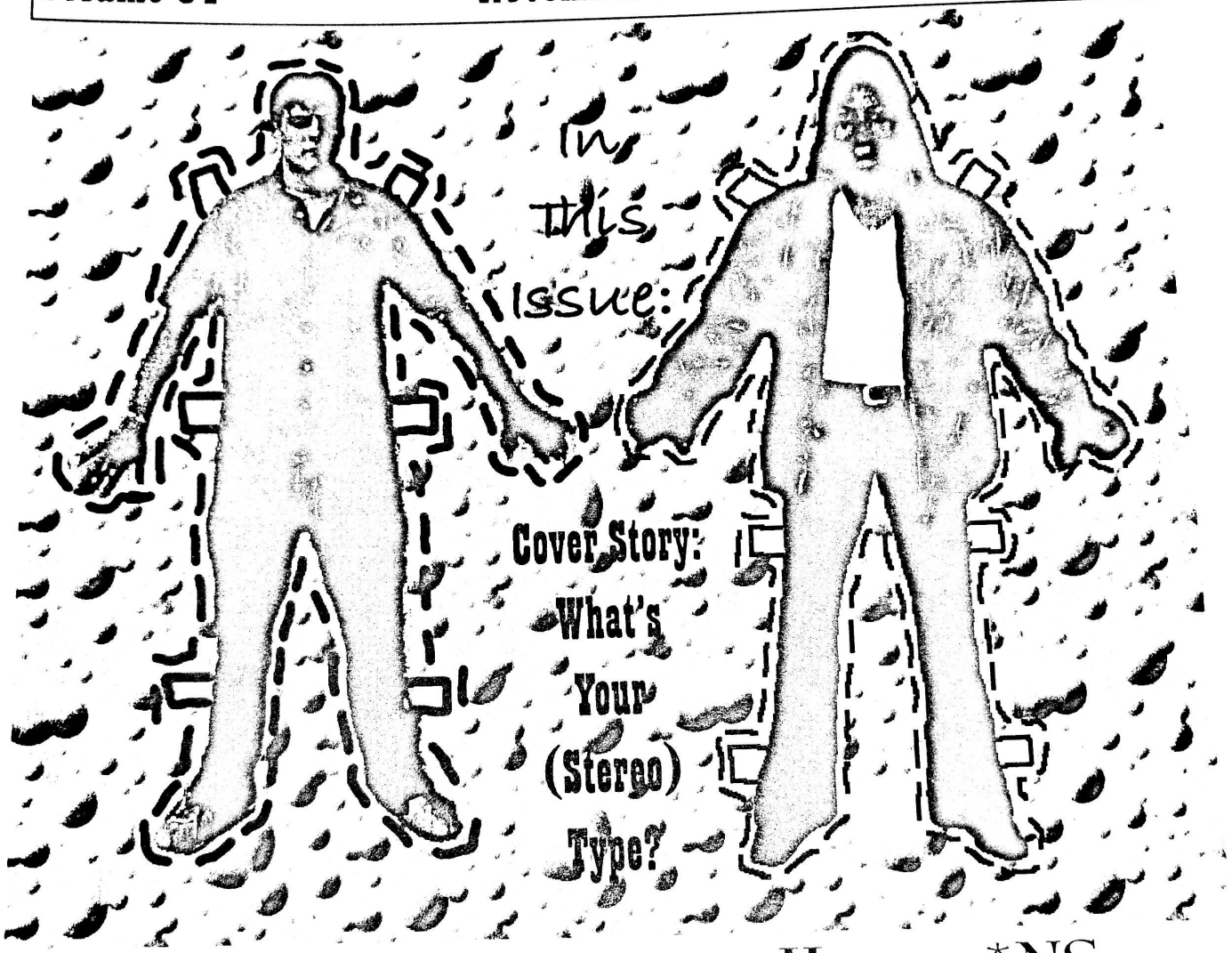
THE RedBird Word

Volume 34 November 2000 Number 3



In This Issue:

Cover Story: What's Your (Stereo) Type?

News: Classroom Disruptions Skyrocketing

Humor: *NSync Interview

Entertainment: Heavenly Angels

Sports: Top Fall Athletes

Features: Cafeteria Made To Order

Alton High School 2200 College Ave Alton, IL 62002

Visit the RBW Online! http://i.am/rbw

IT'S ALL ABOUT ME

Doc Love is Out -
and not coming back

By Kelly Lappin
Editor-in-Chief

There has been some talk about the absence of the infamous Doc Love from the pages of the RedBird Word this year. We know that some people would like to see it return, but to be honest, there is almost no possible way that is going to happen.

Our reasons for removing Doc Love are simple; the RedBird Word is not a tabloid, and absolutely no good ever came from it. Doc Love started and contributed to the spreading of many rumors, which were almost always about the same specific people.

Some of the subjects of controversy took it as a joke, but others were very offended that the school newspaper was contributing to gossip about them. There is too much gossiping on campus anyway; these rumors, whether they are true or false, don't need to be published.

Also, Doc Love's audience is a very small portion of the student body. It was usually about the same group of people, and isn't entertaining to those outside of that group. Most of the time, it didn't even make sense to more than a dozen people, because it was often about what happened at one party. Few people who read this paper were at that one party, or know those few people Doc Love was about.

We have heard suggestions to turn Doc Love into a real advice column, to eliminate the tabloid element. Then the people who really want to read Doc Love still won't be happy, because a real advice column would not be juicy gossip about people they know. It would just be very boring. Besides, why would anyone want advice from us? We're just stupid teenagers like everyone else.

Perhaps if there was any way to make a respectable Doc Love page that people would want to read, we might consider bringing it back. We have explored our options, however, and we have not yet found a solution that would make the usual Doc Love readers happy, not get us in trouble and not be extremely boring.

As always, if any readers have comments or questions on this or any other issues, tell us.

RedBird Word
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Our Mission For 2000

Our mission as journalists of the RedBird Word is to bring you, the students, the who, what, when, where, and why of the news. Aside from the facts we will strive to enlighten and entertain. This is a paper for the students, created by the students, so as your voice, help us be heard.

Letters to the Editor
What Do You Think?

The RedBird Word staff wants to hear from you. If you have any questions or comments about a story, let us know! Feel free to drop your letter by Room 401, put it in Mrs. Brave's mailbox in the Main Office, or send an e-mail to the Editor-in-Chief at klappin@journalist.com. Also, clubs and organizations who would like to advertise events or awards can have a club sponsor or member contact us. We'll run an ad for your activity for FREE, just let us know!

cover photos by Laura Smock

RedBird Rant
RBW Opinions November 2000

Disclaimer: These columns are personal opinions of RBW staff members!

Cafeteria Cleanup- Students' Help Needed

By Stephanie Hoke
Publicity Manager

Rush, rush, rush is often how one finds themself feeling when they enter the cafeteria and see the long lines perfectly complimented by the overcrowded tables. Then they get a glimpse of the food, or is it? Yes, humans can consume it, but why when they can have and deserve so much more.

Plans have already been made to install a grill, supplies and decor. The bulk of these changes will occur over the Christmas break and we hope that they prove to be in the positive.

However, this is not all that will need to be done to make this environment all that it could be. As with any food setting, cleanliness is a big factor. This is why the advisors of both Student Activities Board and Student Senate have named me the chairperson of student involvement.

It will be my duty to organize a program that will allow the students to take an active role in the cleanliness of the cafeteria. Keep in mind that this is where you eat and as young adults we should be able to take some form of responsibility in making our cafeteria a source of pride.

The program may allow students to have passes out of their lunch study hall to come down and wipe tables and help out the staff. Students who help will be presented with free lunch coupons for their time. Plans have not been finalized, but your input is needed to make this work. If you want to help or want more information on this topic contact Glenna Pickett, Ida Berry or Stephanie Hoke at 474-2700 ext. 784 or visit room 304.

This isn't Middle School- stop acting like it!

By Courtney Mathus
Back-page editor

Immaturity and impolteness are two very common acts unfortunately seen at AHS. Most students here are considered "young adults," but not all of them act like it.

One common offense I see everyday is when groups of students block the stairs and hallways. Some people do not understand that coming from the second floor of the Annex to the fourth floor of the Main can be difficult to do in six minutes. Only half the time does a polite "exuse me" convince anyone to move out of the way.

Some students have no respect for their teachers. When a student gets smart with a teacher, they should think about how the teacher wants to give them the best education they can. Why else would the teachers be teaching?

Since students are forced to eat in the cafeteria, the art of food throwing is common this year. Not only does it happen in the cafeteria, but one morning the car behind me enjoyed throwing doughnuts at my car. Why was this done? To impress friends?

There are very simple solutions to these problems. If you are the one blocking the stairs, make sure there is plenty of room for others to go around you. Next time you want to mouth off to a teacher, bite your tongue and think about everything they do for you. When you feel the urge to throw food, ask yourself why you want to waste such a good piece of food. When some people are starving? You, the students fo AHS, can cooperate to make our school a happier place to be.

RBW

November 2000

NEWS

AHS-USA-World

Gore Campaign Stops In St. Louis

By Kelly Lappin
Editor-in-Chief

The entire Democratic ticket of Missouri and about 2,500 citizens gathered in St. Louis to support Al Gore at a rally on November 6, just one day before the presidential election. Five Journalism II students from AHS also attended to see what it was like to experience a political event as part of the media.

photo by David Fitzgerald
Richard Gephart introduces Al Gore at the St. Louis rally.

The rally, held at America's Center in downtown St. Louis, began with entertainment by the Temptations and Shawn Mullins, as people were still entering and quickly filling up the convention center. Both performances featured alterations of popular songs to include a little propaganda for Gore, such as the Temptations asking, "Who's the man? AL GORE!" and Shawn Mullins saying that George W. Bush should just "go to sleep."

Becky Cook, secretary of state in Missouri, began the lineup of speakers, followed by Nancy Farmer, William Lacey Clay, Steve Gaw, and Dick Gephart. Gaw, a candidate for secretary of state in Missouri, encouraged citizens to exercise their right to vote, because "This nation belongs to us (the people)." Bob Holden arrived later because his plane landing was delayed due to bad weather.

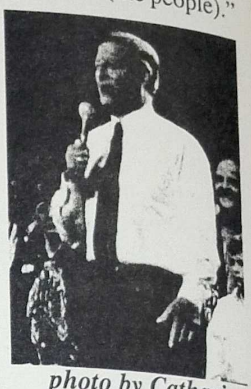

photo by Catharine McNelly
Al Gore delivers a speech to 2,500 people at America's Center.

Masses of shiny pom pons and signs waved high in the air as Al and Tipper Gore walked out on the stage. Gore settled the crowd by exclaiming, "I can hear the message!" He talked about the rigorous campaigning process, especially the final days, which included for him a 30-hour campaigning marathon of visiting Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, and Florida. He continued to describe the positive effects eight years under a Democratic president has brought to the United States, and what he would do once elected. His proposed actions included making "college tuition mostly tax-deductible," and raising minimum wage by a dollar.

Rumors At AHS

By Audrey Hinrichs
Business Editor

Many rumors have been circulating around Alton High throughout the quarter about seniors getting out early and exams.

Principal Philip Robbins said that seniors will get out early this year just like in previous years. The simple truth is seniors have to get out early in order to figure grades, determine valedictorian and prepare diplomas for graduation. Seniors normally get out approximately 10 days earlier than the rest of the school. This figure, Principal Robbins said, can change according to snow days of other unexpected occurrences. Robbins said, "The change in closed campus or the beat up on the parking laws got students scared."

Robbins said, "Final exams will not change at semester," to quell rumors of a change in finals. He said that changes could be made in the future. A comprehensive examination will be required in each class however. This exam will count for a grade and will communicate if there is a difference in acquired knowledge by students taking the same class but taught by different teachers.

Disruptions Skyrocket

By David Fitzgerald
News Editor

Referrals are down this year by 3.7 per day, partially thanks to the campus being closed. Between the dates of August 30, 1999 and September 28, 1999 there were 65.7 referrals per day. This year between roughly the same time period there were 62.0 referals per day.

The decrese in referrals per day for skipping from this year to last year is only 2.71 per day. That means on average about three less students skip this year than they did last year in the month of October.

The number of class room disruptions this year has skyrocketed, however, by over 520 percent. Last year there were only about two disruptions per day. This year there are almost 11 disruptions per day. Principal Philip Robbins attributes the rise to the closed campus. "More kids are at school. That means there are more disruptions going on here rather than Uptown."

The bulk of these disruptions, 113, are being committed by freshmen. As the grade level increases the amount of disruptions decreases.

David Cole Goes Disney

By Erin McCann
Managing Editor

Senior David Cole will soon be packing his belongings for a move to Florida. David was accepted to attend the Disney University and work at one of the world-renowned Disney theme parks.

Cole first heard about the program through his sister, Jackie Cole. After careful consideration, he decided that the opportunity was too great to pass up. When the letter of acceptance arrived, he had mixed emotions.

"I am a little scared about being that far from home," said Cole, "My parents and girlfriend (senior Jennifer Hargiss) have told me that they will call and visit often."

Cole will be studying hotel management, as well as doing some vocal work at the Magic Kingdom. If things go well, he may be offered a permanent position with Disney.

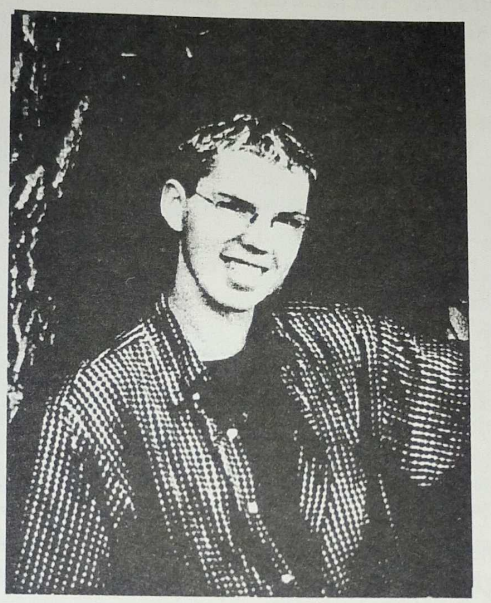

photo by Gravemann

"I feel that this opportunity was a gift from God, and I would be a fool not to take it," said Cole.

Cole will leave for Florida on February 1, and will begin work on February 5. He will be living in an apartment directly off the Disney property.

Cole hopes to become the general manager of a hotel or resort after finishing college. He already has experience after spending the past six months as the guest services representative at the Alton Holiday Inn.

"This has changed my outlook on life," said Cole. "I went from finishing high school, going to business college and starting work, to moving to Florida and starting my life over at the age of eighteen. I really have just stepped back and let everything fall into place."

Metabolife Diet May Be Harmful

By Julie Strassman

With the number of overweight teens in America rising, more and more of the young population are turning to herbal supplement pills to aid weight loss. Reassured by the labels claiming to be "all natural," they ignore the hidden risks that these drugs can pose to their health. However, these adverse side effects should not be ignored.

According to Reader's Digest, Karen Ruiz and Hanna Zechzer are witnesses to the negative affects of diet pills such as Metabolife. Ruiz, hoping to attain the energy boost Metabolife promised, started with half the dose recommended on the label. A few days after starting her dosage, Ruiz, who had no history of mental illness, began experiencing strange psychological effects.

"I was under the belief that my neighbor was evil and that she was trying to steal my kids," said Ruiz.

Ruiz regained her grip on reality after a two month hospital stay. She has suffered from manic depression ever since.

Metabolife can also cause physical harm. Zechzer, healthy and in her prime, took the recommended dose for a week without any apparent side effects. Then, without warning, she went into heart and respiratory failure and spent the next 10 days on life support. She eventually recovered, but others were not so lucky.

Between 1993 and 2000, the Food and Drug Administration collected reports of some 1,200 accounts of injuries, including 70 deaths.

Many wonder why Metabolife and other Ephedrine drugs, drugs that contain ephedra and caffeine to boost the body's metabolism, are still on the market. According to Self magazine, a piece of legislation called the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act, passed in 1994, says that dietary supplements must be assumed safe until proven otherwise. The FDA can only advise that no more than 12 milligrams of ephedra be consumed daily. The directions on the label of Metabolife call for taking 62 milligrams of ephedra every day.

When asked about their knowledge of the negative side effects of Metabolife, employees at GNC, in Alton Square Mall, claimed to be unaware of any threats posed to the physical and mental health of preciously healthy people by ephedra. Nikki Strohmeier, GNC employee, said that she knew only what the label and an interactive customer service computer program said about Metabolife. Employees at Vitamin World refused any comment.

Neither store sells Metabolife or other ephedra or caffeine-based drugs to minors. However, many teens are still able to find ways around such regulations. Metabolife sales continue to rise.

PS2 I Love You, I Just Can't Get You

By Ben Harris

Sleek compact design, smooth operating functions, extensive power, and plenty of space. The latest and most popular of its kind. A new sports car? No. It is the one and only Playstation 2.

Released on October 26, this small piece of electronics has already sucked $150 million from the wallets and purses of America. Game freaks and their parents have been waiting for several years to purchase this advanced gaming system, and with plenty of reason.

"Playstation 2 will create a new market for the next level of entertainment experience in the home," said Kaz Hirai, president and chief operating officer of Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.

The PS2 is not called the "next level" just for marketing. Its 128-bit graphics system combats that of the Sega Dreamcast. It includes an adaptable high-speed modem (56K) for plenty of online gaming, a DVD player, 32MB of memory, and the capacity to play old Playstation games.

The only downfall noticed thus far is the lack of product distribution in the United States. Only one million consoles were first released in Japan, selling out immediately. The shipping amount was halved to 500 thousand for the US, and some pre-orders will not be received until late December. Despite this, thousands waited at electronics stores hoping to purchase the coveted PS2.

"I got one the day it came out," said Chad Volo. Happy to be one of the lucky first owners of the PS2, Volo said, "It's my god."

Once copy supply is increased and the prices dropped, (this process usually taking a year or so), more will be able to participate in the magic that is Playstation 2.

Faculty Helps 'Helping Hand'

By David Fitzgerald
News Editor

Alton High gives a 'Helping Hand' so some community members can have a happier Thanksgiving. A $135 check was given to Project Helping Hand from the Alton High Student Senate on November 15.

Student Senate sponsored Night On the Town, a contest held during students' lunch hours. Students voted for their favorite faculty member by placing coins in cans with respective members' names on them.

The biggest money winner in the contest received the honor of choosing the charity to which the proceeds would go. Alton High School Assistant Principal Debra Pitts won the most money and chose Project Helping Hand. The students' donations totaled $67.50. Student Senate matched the student's donations for a total of $135.

Project Helping Hand is an organization that helps community members in need. They will provide about 50 families with Thanksgiving dinner this year. Project Helping Hand's Project Coordinator Bessie Hubbard accepted the check, and she gave thanks to Alton High and to Pitts. "I feel like I've come home. Thank you very much," Hubbard said upon receiving the check.

Teenage Depression

It is one of the most common emotional disturbances among High School Students

This is more than a day or two of the BLUES

It is a continuing, overwhelming feeling of sadness and helplessness.

Teens with depression may withdraw from activity, family and friends. They may even try to numb those feelings with drugs or alcohol. This depression can be very painful, and it sometimes leads to thoughts of suicide. It can even prove to be fatal.

There is help....

The **Student Assistance Program** at AHS is confidential. Contact Mrs. Bordeaux in Operation Outreach.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Cafeteria Food at AHS Does Not Measure Up

By Jama Fabry
Features Editor

One feature stands out above the rest at St. Charles West High School. Every salad and sandwich is made-to-order. That's right-they have grills where 5.5 ounce burgers are prepared before your very eyes and two types of fries are continuously being cooked. They offer around 15 entree choices every day and a mere three dollars buys a "Fresh Burger Meal," which includes fries and a drink. To AHS students this sounds like a dream, but it is an everyday reality for students at St. Charles West.

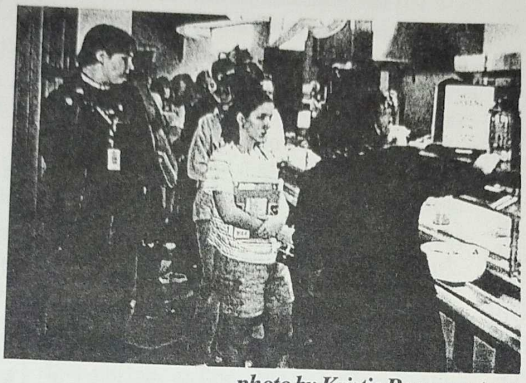

photo by Kristie Baumgartner

Searching for ways to improve the cafeteria situation, the school board sent representatives from the Student Council and various school groups to observe the campus of St. Charles West High School on November 1. These students investigated the lunch room facilities and spoke with Brian Chelf, District Director of Food Services, and Sheila MaGee, District Manager of Chartwells, the supplier of cafeteria food for AHS and St. Charles West. They also sampled the extensive cuisine and talked to the school's satisfied students.

"We have a lot of different varieties of food. The line with the quiche and carved-beef is the most popular. No one really minds waiting in line or the prices because the food's worth it," said Julie Bates, senior at St. Charles.

St. Charles West has 1100 students and four lunch periods, which equals around 275 kids for every 20 minute eating period. AHS has around 2100 students and six lunch periods. They also have seperate lines for each food type and 15 employees compared to the 20 at AHS. Their lunch personnel all wear chef uniforms and are constantly trained and monitored for friendliness and efficiency.

Although many of their prices are similar to those at AHS, they offer Gatorade, hot chocolate, coffee, and Fruitopia to students. St. Charles West is a newly rebuilt school, with a high-ceilinged, tabled area with blue and yellow tiling and a special decorated area for condiments.

Like AHS, they have a "Type A Meal" available for $1.45, which is usually pasta, salad, a bread stick, and a drink.

Brian Chelf visits the AHS cafeteria every other week and Sheila MaGee is meeting with the Student Council to find ways to satisfy the student body. They have suggested the possibility of taking out the line at the front of the cafeteria and putting in a made-to-order buffet. AHS is in the process of installing a grill, but lacks the equipment or the capacity to provide the same food services as St. Charles West. Suggestion boxes will be set up in the AHS cafeteria for any reasonable ideas for improvements.

Senior Class Vice-President Tricia Koehne echoed the thoughts of the group, "Their lunchroom was really clean and the food actually tasted good. I didn't see anyone bringing their lunch. I hope that someday our cafeteria can be this nice."

Alton High offers more opportunities than Marquette

By Nik Kern

Closed campus, study hall, less parking freedom-this year started off pretty depressing for most students. There is one alternative for those who do not like being an AHS inmate, Marquette Catholic High School in Alton.

Marquette is a Catholic High School that serves students from the southwest region of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. The school has a very small enrollment and offers general studies, college prep, and advanced placement.

While Alton High may have 2,100 students compared to Marquette's 384, a much more diverse curriculum is offered here. AHS has one of the broadest programs south of Chicago.

For students who are into wearing popular brands such as Abercrombie and Fitch or American Eagle attire to school, they will be in for a shock at Marquette. MCHS has a strict dress code which includes khaki, blue, or white slacks or shorts, and a collared blue, gray, or white shirt for the guys. The girls can wear skirts but they cannot be more than three inches above the knee. Facial hair of any kind is not allowed.

At Marquette there is absolutely NO gum chewing allowed. If a student is caught with gum or any type of candy, or even an untucked shirt, they are forced to pay a fine and cannot take finals until it is paid.

Although parking in the Pit is has become a hassle, be thankful that there is one. Marquette students have to arrive at school 45 minutes early to fight for a space along the side of the road. "Parking is a huge problem," said MCHS junior Brian Coalson.

Marquette offers the basic sports, but lacks cross country, track, swimming, and bowling. Band and orchestra students would be lost at Marquette. They do not have the extensive music program that AHS does, nor do they have the same amount of extracurricular activities or organizations.

For a fee of $50 students can experience the broad curriculum of AHS. The price for attending Marquette Catholic is nearly $4,000 a year.

Webcams and Reality TV

By Missy Minton

Senior Editor

In the 1948 book "1984" George Orwell gave his prediction on what the world would be like in like in 20 years. His descriptions of Big Brother keeping a close eye on everybody and everything in our society alarmed readers around the world decades ago.

Ironically enough, the government is not keeping an eye on us. We are, some say, doing it to ourselves. About 2.5 million people bought webcams last year and started broadcasting their personal lives on the internet.

Some think this trend is brought about by the new found popularity of reality based television. Along with "Survivor" are shows such as MTV's "The Real World," or "Big Brother," or Fox's "America High."

Even the television network PBS has jumped on the reality TV bandwagon with "The 1900 House," in which an English family spends three months living like a middle-class household 1900.

When asked what interests people about the shows, junior, Jenny Naughton said, "I like it when everybody fights." Junior Chelsea Witcher likes it because, "It's real, there are no scripts for the actors to go by."

The popularity of these shows has traveled beyond the fascination of merely watching them. More than 6,100 people applied to be on "Survivor" while more than 35,000 auditioned for "The Real World." Some question whether or not reality TV is a long term trend or just a fad.

Many of the cast members of these shows become celebrities. Darva Conger, bride on "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire?" posed for Playboy, while "Survivor" castaways are being offered endorsements and modeling contracts.

Experts say that the World Wide Web has paved the way for reality TV. Millions have put up homepages using their web cams. These little cameras allow anyone to become a reality TV star.

TNI Needs Volunteers

By Andrea Dubree

The Nature Institute needs volunteers to collect seeds from the prairie , plant seedlings, establish nurseries, repair buildings, build bridges, and count eagles morning and evening.

Donna Preston, a TNI member said, "It brings the community together. People who love this beautiful area come together to preserve it."

TNI owns the Olin Nature Preserve which is open to the public from March 15 to November 15 each year. Campers are invited to come and enjoy Olin's Nature Preserve and become active in the preservation there.

TNI's main headquarters , The Mississippi Sanctuary, is located on South Levis Lane in Godfrey. If any student would be interested in becoming a member of The Nature Institute or in volunteering, call 467-2254 for more information.

AHS Student Attends National Seminar

By MissyMinton
Photographer

Not many students can say that they like to go to school over the summer. Well, that's precisely what junior Taylor Gaddy did and she enjoyed every minute of it. Gaddy was selected out of 300 applicants to attend the Telluride Association Sophomore Seminar (TASS).

The seminar was on racial and minority politics. Gaddy received an application in the mail for the seminar through the MInority Excellence Program at Alton High. "It looked interesting so I filled it out. Out of 300 applicants, 15 from the US were chosen," said Gaddy.

"(Gaddy) was about the fourth student in succession to go to the seminar over the years," said Dorthy Howell, Minority Excellence adviser. "It's a really good experience for them. It's a good opportunity for students interested in business and accounting."

"The seminar was held for six weeks at Indiana University in Bloomington. We attended class from 9:30 to 12:30, Monday through Friday," Gadddy said. "Two of our professors were Mr. and Mrs. Assensoh from Ghana, Africa. Both of them have three or four Doctorates. Also, Mr. Assensoh did some work on the Martin Luther King papers."

The students had two tutors each to help them with their class work. "It wasn't all class work though," said Gaddy, "We had a budget for entertainment, like for whenever we wanted to go he movies. And on the Fourth of July we all got together and had a Barbecue."

photo by Missy Minton

A Dream Makes Its Way To Alton

By Kari Oglesby

With a dream and a commitment to be the best, Harold Butler opended Danny's Donuts in Lakewood, California in 1953. Danny's Donuts has changed many times, but is now formerly known as the famous world - wide restaurant, Denny's.

Denny's has a great history starting in1953when the first restaurant opened. In 1954, the townspeople demanded an expansion of the menu including sandwiches and other entrees. In 1959, Danny's Donuts was renamed to Danny's Coffee Shop. By 1981, there were 1000 restaurants in the U.S. As the year 2000 rolls along, Harold Butler had reached success with 1652 restaurants.

Denny's, which opened on November 6th, is al ready a great addition to the city of Alton.

Denny's is attracting hundreds of people each day. According to the Alton Denny's Manager, Austin Roberts, the restaurant's has a comfortable seating capacity of 178. Denny's hired approximately 140 employees. It is located at 181 Homer Adams Parkway.

"I've already met a lot of great employees, and they make my work a lot of fun," said Sara Hardimon, a Hostess and junior at Alton High School.

"I am sure this Denny's restaurants will be a huge success," said Roberts, "we're going to give Steak N' Shake a kick in the butt."

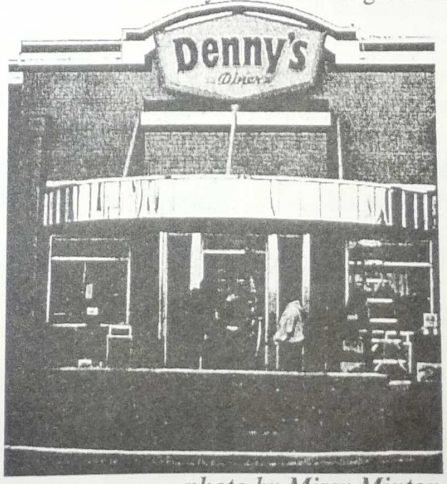

photo by Missy Minton

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RBW

WHAT'S YOUR (STE

COVER STOR

Chris Beasley, senior

RBW: How do you dress?

Beasley: Baggy, cheap clothes. I hate name brand clothes. Kik Wear is cool because they have their own unique style.

RBW: Does your style reflect your social group?

Beasley: Yeah. Because I wear off-brand clothes so I'm considered a dirty, grungie, skater person, instead of a prissy, preppie type. But I'm not dirty.

RBW: Do you stereotype people by what they wear?

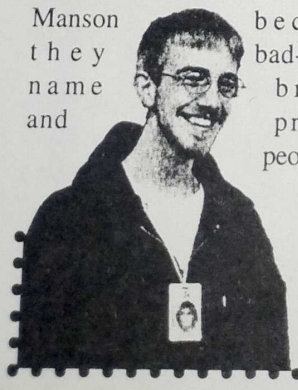
Beasley: Yes. People who wear Tommy and Abercrombie are preppie.

RBW: Are you making a statement with your clothes?

Beasley: I'm not making a statement. I dress comfy in what I can afford.

RBW: Do any entertainment personalities influence the way you dress?

Beasley: Phil Anselmo of Pantera and Marilyn Manson because they bad-mouth brand names and preppie people.



Christianne Beck, senior

RBW: How do you dress?

Beck: Whatever appeals to me me. It doesn't have to be name brand, it just has to be comfy.

RBW: Does your style reflect your social status?

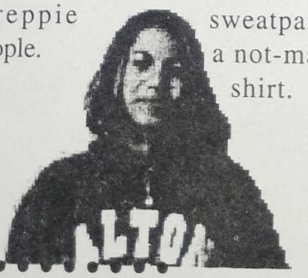
Beck: I think people put me in a social group, but I don't dress the way I do because of my friends.

RBW: Do you judge people by their clothes?

Beck: Yeah, sometimes I do. It's a human flaw.

RBW: Are you making a statement with your clothes?

Beck: I don't care what people think. I'll bust out some sweatpants and a not-matching shirt.



Kelly Osborn, senior

RBW: What do you wear?

Osborn: Anything non-name brand, (and) stuff from Goodwill.

RBW: Does your style reflect your social status?

Osborn: Not necessarily, it's my personal style. My friends don't all dress like me.

RBW: Are you judged by your appearance?

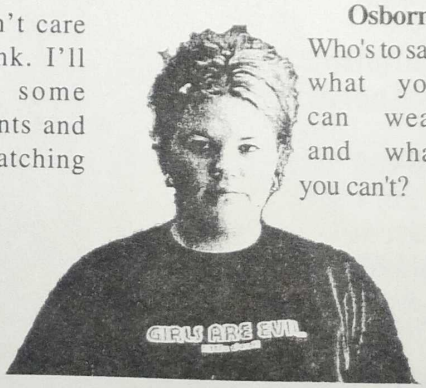
Osborn: I get lots of dirty looks and people expect me to be trash off the street and are surprised when I have a mind.

RBW: Are you making a statement with your clothes?

Osborn: It's okay to be different. Don't judge a person by what they look like because that's not how they are.

RBW: How would you feel if you had to wear uniforms at school?

Osborn: Who's to say what you can wear and what you can't?



Matt Izard, senior

RBW: How do you dress?

Izard: Preppy. I wear Nautica, Levis and Old Navy. I can sag in the clothes I wear, and that is comfortable to me.

RBW: Does your style reflect your social stauts?

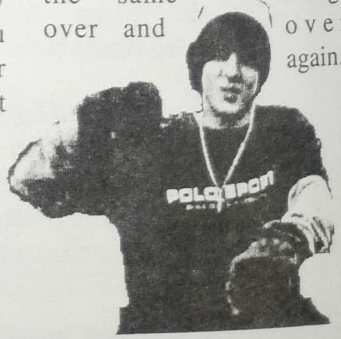
Izard: Yeah. My friends basically dress like me.

RBW: You judge people by what they wear?

Izard: I don't judge them. I still talk to them, but I make fun of their clothes. It's always fun to pick at them.

RBW: How would you feel if you had to wear uniforms at school?

Izard: I wouldn't like it. I went to St. Mary's, and it got so old to wear and see the same thing, over and over again.



(Stereo) Type? November 2000

Story

By Amy Porter
Cover Story Editor
photos by Amy Porter

Michael Stockard, senior

RBW: How do you dress?

Stockard: I wear a lot of different styles of clothes as long as they're name brand.

RBW: Do you get stereotyped by your clothes?

Stockard: They think I'm a thug by the way I dress. I think I'm a nice young gentleman.

RBW: Do you stereotype people by what they wear?

Stockard: If that's what they want to wear, it doesn't matter to me.

RBW: Are you making a statement with your clothes?

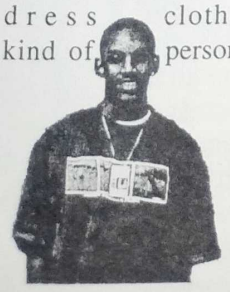
Stockard: I'm just trying to stay with the latest fashion. I feel I wouldn't feel right if I didn't dress the way I want to dress.

RBW: Do any entertainment personalities influence the way you dress?

Stockard: Rap artists. I look at the way some of them dress.

RBW: How would you feel if you had to wear uniforms at school?

Stockard: I'd be pretty mad. I'm not a dress clothes kind of person.



David Eichen, sophomore

RBW: How do you dress?

Eichen: Black. It scares people and I like it.

RBW: Do you stereotype people by what they wear?

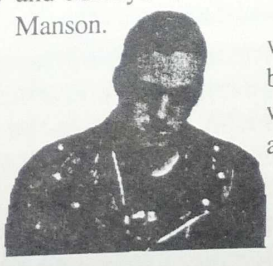
Eichen: Yes. Stereotyping seems to be a natural human function. The kind of stuff you wear is the same as the people you're friends with.

RBW: Are you making a statement with your clothes?

Eichen: I'm not friendly to the people who judge me by the things I wear.

RBW: Do any entertainment personalities influence the way you dress?

Eichen: I wear clothes from the music I listen to, like Insane Clown Posse and Marilyn Manson.



Clinton Followell, junior

RBW: How do you dress?

Followell: In whatever. Some days real loud, some days fit in, some days real different. To fit in with the band, I wear baggy clothes and shirts.

RBW: Does your style reflect your social group?

Followell: Yeah. I bounce around in social groups. I fit in with different people.

RBW: Do you stereotype people by their clothes?

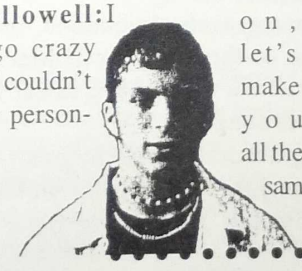
Followell: No. I don't wear the same thing every day, so it's just what they're wearing today.

RBW: Are you making a statement with your clothes?

Followell: I live to be different.

RBW: How would you feel about wearing uniforms at school.

Followell: I would go crazy because I couldn't wear my personality.



Laura Ursprung, senior

RBW: How do you dress?

Ursprung: I like Abercrombie, American Eagle, Lerner and Old Navy. I love jeans because they're comfortable. Skirts are annoying.

RBW: Does your style reflect your social group?

Ursprung: Everybody I hang out with wears the same clothes. I don't really know what else to buy.

RBW: Do you stereotype people by what they wear?

Ursprung: To an extent. I'll put them together with their friends, but that doesn't mean that's what they act like. But if you wear a band shirt, that's pretty much what you do.

RBW: How would you feel if you had to wear uniforms at school?

Ursprung: The school is all about being your self. But wait, hold on, let's make you all the same.

entertainment
music, movies and more!
RBW
November 2000

Ben Folds Five Folds After Six Years

By Catharine McNelly
Music Entertainment Editor

Five minus three equals zero? Apparently so after the three members of the North Carolina based Ben Folds Five folded.

An official statement from the band's publicists was announced in early November. "The split is amicable and the decision was made because all three members felt the band had run its musical course and wanted to pursue other musical interests," said manager Al Wolmark.

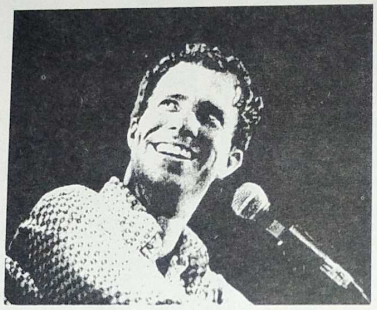


photo courtesy of RollingStone.com
Ben Folds calls it quits

Other reports speculate the breakup was due to the distance between members. As of 1999, Ben Folds, lead singer and pianist, moved to Australia with wife Frally Hynes. While in Australia, Hynes gave birth to twins, Louis and Gracie. Bassist Robert Sledge and drummer Darren Jessee did not wish to make the "down-under" trip to record a fourth album.

Ben Folds Five was formed in Chapel Hill, North Carolina in 1994. The piano-driven pop group released a self-titled album in 1995 followed by *Whatever and Ever Amen* in 1997, which featured the successful single "Brick." *Naked Baby Photos*, a compilation featuring b-sides, live and unreleased tracks, was released in 1998, and the band's most recent album *The Unauthorized Biography of Reinhold Messner* hit stores in the spring of 1999.

Members have been focusing on various side projects over the past year. Folds covered Steely Dan's "Barrytown" for the "Me, Myself and Irene" soundtrack, has appeared in Priceline.com commercials with William Shatner and has recorded and produced a song for the movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

Sledge has toured with former Squirrel Nut Zippers' Tom Maxwell and his band The Minor Drag. He is also producing bands in his Chapel Hill studio. Jessee has relocated to New York City where he has performed solo in a few local clubs. He is working to form a new band.

"The band is splitting on good terms," said Folds. "We are very proud of our three albums, our little hit and our audience. Now it is time to bow out with dignity rather than to make that final 'cash-in' record and tour which, of course, is very tempting."

Barenaked Ladies

By Alison Hanold

The Barenaked Ladies stormed the stage of the Savvis Center (formerly the Kiel Center) on October 20. After the recent success of their latest album "Maroon," the band integrated new songs with old favorites.

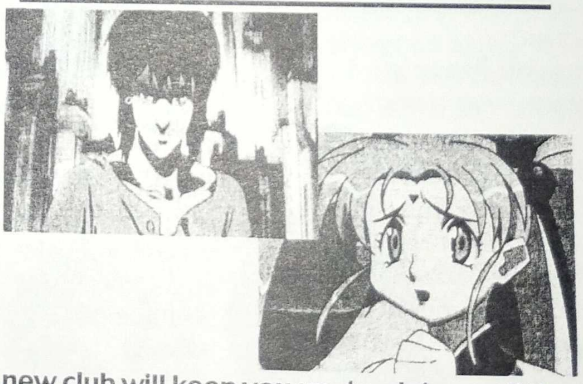
Many of the band's most popular songs were played with the audience singing along. "Brian Wilson," "One Week" and "The Old Apartment" were big crowd pleasers, but the most audience participation came when the band played "If I Had $1,000,000." The song lasted around ten minutes with band members Steven Page and Ed Robertson pausing between to tell stories or break into an improvisational rap.

Although having been previously banned, several fans held up the tradition of throwing Kraft Macaroni and Cheese when the line, "We won't have to eat Kraft Dinner, but we will..." was sung.

From the stage being decorated with large art-deco animal balloons to a huge joker head from which the band emerged, the Barenaked Ladies put on a very memorable show.

Do you like Japanese animation like Dragon Ball Z and Akira? Then join...

Team anime JD



This new club will keep you up-to-date on all the latest anime and even let you get your hands on some. You can make music videos with your favorite songs and anime! There will be group activities and anime gatherings. If you want some anime for practically nothing, get a free preview tape by leaving a message for Justin Bray in Room 401.

Concert Calendar

December 2
MxPx
The Pageant

December 7
Deftones
Incubus
The Pageant

December 8
Medeski Martin and Wood
The Pageant

December 14
"The Jingle Ballers Jam"
feat. Nelly, Lil' Kim,
Cash Money
Savvis Center

December 15
Orangetree
Galaxy

December 23
MU330
The Firehouse

December 25-28
The Urge
Mississippi Nights
**Last Urge shows at*
Mississippi Nights

Limp, Eminem Invade Savvis

By Rob Davis

The Anger Management Tour featuring rockers Limp Bizkit and Papa Roach along with rappers Eminem and Xzibit stopped in St. Louis before heading out west.

Xzibit opened with tracks from his album set to drop on December 12. This is where surprise guests D12 made their first appearance of the night performing the West Coast Rap classic "Nothin' But a G Thang." D12 then had a three song set of their own.

Next was hard-core rockers Papa Roach. Dressed in all black, this band did not disappoint fans, putting on an incredible show, which featured lead singer Coby Dick stage diving four times (including a back flip into the capacity crowd) and his tour around the crowd on the rails.

Eminem followed with an hour-long set that included a twenty-minute cartoon, which can be seen at www.slimshady.com, and a stage setup that included a 20-foot-wide video wall and the house from the "The Way I Am" video. D12 made their third and final appearance of the night, helping Eminem through his set.

Headliner Limp Bizkit closed with a blistering hour-and-a-half set that included songs from all three albums.

The stage had the Bizkit boys coming out of what looked like a giant Transformer robot. DJ Lethal and drummer John Otto were set high on the shoulders with lead singer Fred Durst, guitarist Wes Boreland and bassist Sam Rivers on the main stage.

NFG 'Dressed to Kill' at Firehouse

By Catharine McNelly
Music Entertainment Editor

Perhaps the success of A New Found Glory has much to do with the band's ability to uniquely blend punk, emo, hard-core and rock styles together. Call it what you will, but this band is quickly taking fans by surprise, especially in the St. Louis area.

The Firehouse in downtown St. Louis was literally fired-up with fans on Nov. 7 as A New Found Glory opened for Fenix Tx. Other openers included Lefty and Good Charlotte.

photo courtesy of www.anewfoundglory.com

A New Found Glory formed in 1997 after taking the South Florida punk scene by storm. The band heavily relies on the energy of their live shows to gain fans. They landed a spot on the 2000 Van's Warped Tour, which came to Chicago but not to St. Louis. Those in South Florida enjoyed earlier than others the band's five song CD in 1998.

Other releases include an EP titled *It's All About the Girls* and the 1999 full-length album *Nothing Gold Can Stay*, featuring the single "You've Got a Friend in Pennsylvania." The band recorded seven tracks from various film soundtracks and released the CD *From the Screen to Your Stereo* in early 2000, which was followed by their second full-length album, *New Found Glory*, in September.

Although A New Found Glory did not headline at the Firehouse, they attracted the most people. Their set opened with the brand new single "Better Off Dead." Other new songs included "Eyesore," "Boy Crazy" and "Dressed to Kill," a song in which lead singer Jordan Pundik said was written about Britney Spears. Covers from *From the Screen to Your Stereo* included "Never Ending Story" and "The Glory of Love." The show ended with "Hit or Miss."

Movie Calendar

Coming to Theaters

December 1
The Man Who Cried

December 6
Finding Forrester

December 8
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
Dungeons and Dragons
The Gift
Proof of Life
Verticle Limit

December 15
Dude, Where's My Car
What Women Want

December 22
The Family Man
Miss Congeniality
Wes Craven Presents: Dracula 2000

Now Available on Video

Big Momma's House
Boys and Girls
M:I2
The Perfect Storm
X-Men

The Angels Take Action

By Katie Manning
Movie Entertainment Editor

Sexy women and fast cars. Enough said. "Charlie's Angels" has won our hearts again, and this time it's at the theater.

Drew Barrymore, Cameron Diaz and Lucy Lui play the present day Charlie's Angels and do a superb job.

photo courtesy of Yahoo!
Drew Barrymore, Cameron Diaz and Lucy Lui show off their karate moves.

Natalie (Cameron Diaz), Dylan (Drew Barrymore) and Alex (Lucy Lui) work for Charlie, their crime fighting boss who they've never seen. In this remake of the 70s classic, the Angels have to rescue a well-known millionaire who has been kidnapped before his advanced technological secrets get into the wrong hands.

The Angels kick butt as strong, independent women who use their martial arts skills, not guns, to fight off the bad guys.

This flick is filled with just the right balance of action and humor and has a splendid soundtrack. The Angels shine as young, beautiful, confident women who take pride in what they do, although they have to keep it top secret. Cameron Diaz stands out from the others with her combination of intelligence and stupidity.

This movie is pure fun.

Blair Witch Strikes Again

By Andy Herrin

For those of you who thought the Blair Witch was finally gone, think again! It appears that the Blair Witch has returned to terrorize again, maybe.

The recently released "Blair Witch 2, Book of Shadows" is the follow-up to the 1999 movie "The Blair Witch Project." "Book of Shadows" takes a very different approach in explaining the story of the Blair Witch.

The storyline for "Book of Shadows" is about five people exploring the woods where the "Blair Witch Project" was based. All of the people are aware that the movie was fiction, however, they want to explore for a good time. They camp in the woods for one night, and when they awake the next day, they can't remember the night before. As they return home, they all start having weird visions and flashbacks.

"I thought the movie was pretty weird, but cool," said freshman Brandon Marshall.

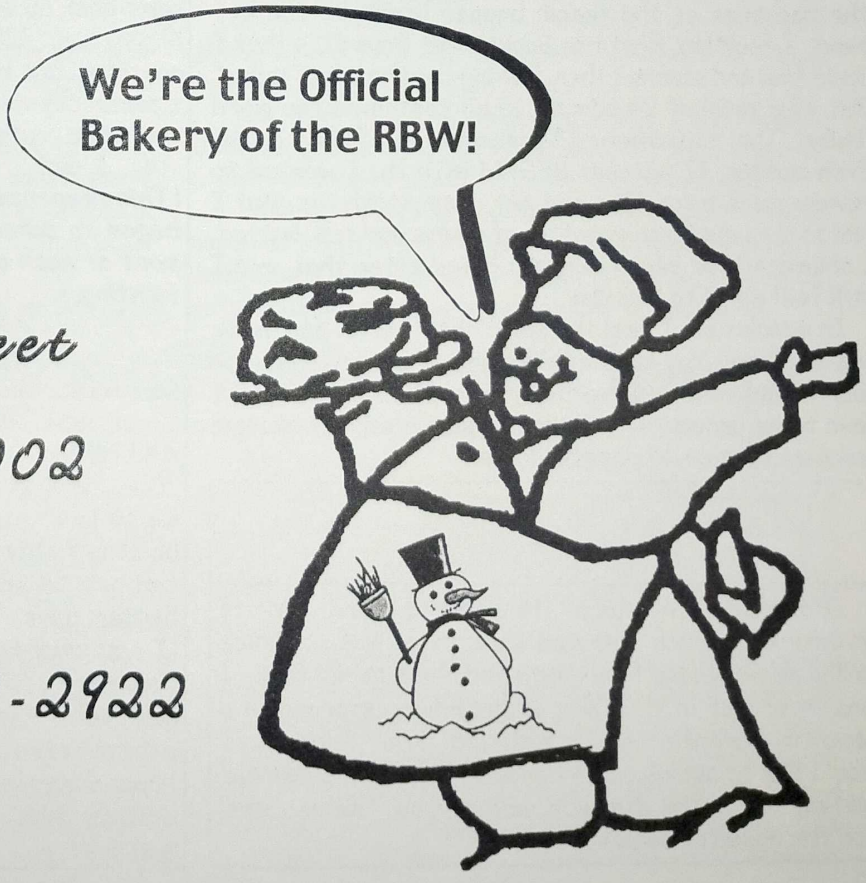
The main difference between "Book of Shadows" and "The Blair Witch Project" is the way they were filmed. "Book of Shadows" isn't filmed entirely in the documentary style, which brought the project "The Blair Witch Project" so much fame. "Book of Shadows" jumps back and forth from traditional film style to documentary film style.

"I didn't really like the movie, but I like the filming style a lot better than the original," said senior Eric Durbin.

"The Book of Shadows" may not be the last movie about the Blair Witch. There is rumored to be a prequel in the works, which will take place before the original "Blair Witch Project." It is hard to tell if any Blair Witch movies will top the sales of the original.

Duke Bakery

Holiday sweets and Duke's
Christmas cookies!
Yum yum yum yum yum,
yum yum yum yum!



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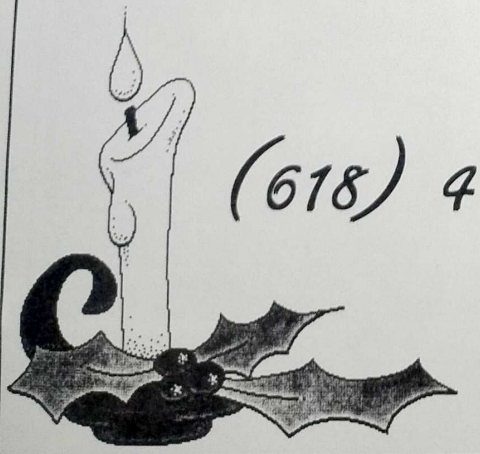
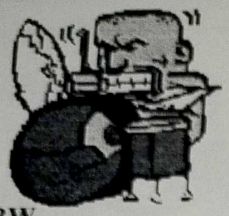
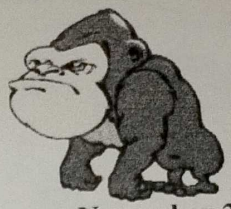




HUMOR



RBW

November 2000

This is all satire. Calm down.

GROW A BRAIN, YOU BOY-CRAZY IDIOTS

By Stephen Heintz
Humor Editor

Here's a little word game for you: rotting carcass is to writhing maggots as an *NSync concert is to_____. The answer is, of course, "teenie boppers." The only difference between the two is that the maggots are more pleasant to be around.

Their idol is the dreaded queen of awful music: Britney Spears, or as I like to call her, "El Diablo de los Musicos Pop." I seem to be the only one who remembers the beginning of her career when she was the sweet little former Mouseketeer girl next door. Suddenly, she became a hottie in the eyes of the public and all of her clothes seemed to have shrunk. I honestly don't care how hot she is, if I was approached on the street by an attractive girl loudly singing obnoxious pop songs, I would hit her with a bat. Hard.

I went to lyrics.com to do a little bit of research on the backbone of the teenie bopper lifestyle: the boy band. I took the first two Backstreet Boys CD's that I could find and scanned them looking for the word "baby." Out of a total of 24 songs, 15 all contained the word "baby." That's a pathetic 65 percent of all of their songs. Even sadder, 17 percent BEGAN with it. I wanted to review some more CD's and get more statistics, but I had to stop due to an overdose of shame and self-hatred. I showered for seven straight hours after that, and I still feel dirty to this day.

In conclusion, I feel the same about awful pop music and smoking. You have every right to both of these in your homes and in designated areas, but the second I have to be around it, you are invoking a serious allergic reaction that could possibly kill me.

OFFICIAL SHAME-FILLED RETRACTION

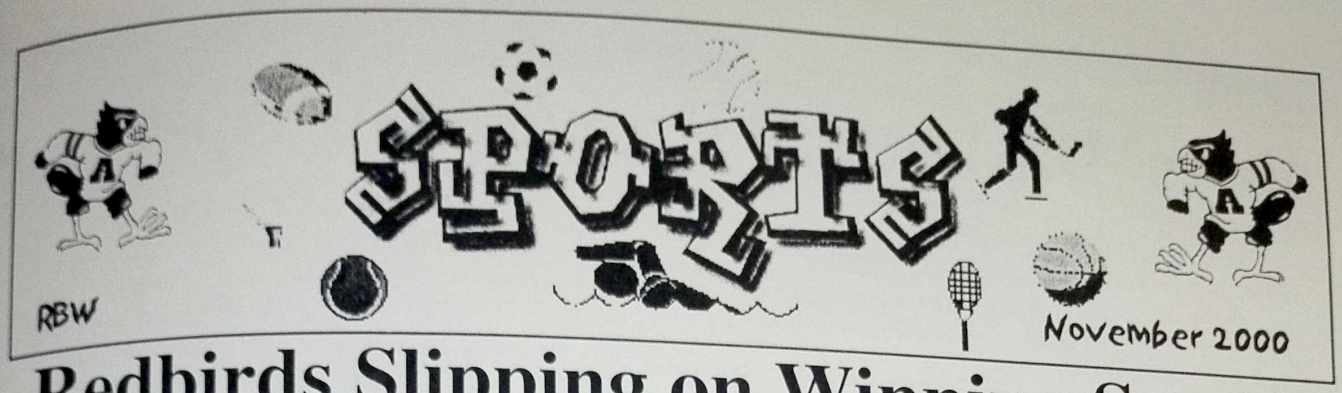
In theOctober issue of the RedBird Word, I wrote an article in which I stated that there was no Bruce Willis movie whose title contained the number four. I was incorrect in this, Mr. Willis having starred in a Quentin Tarentino movie entitled "Four Rooms." I would like to apologize to Canada's Prime Minister for hitting him in the stomach, and to you, the readers, for the misinformation.

INTERVIEW WITH A BOY BAND:

I was recently fortunate enough to pretend to have an interview with the members of *NSync. I attended the interview with my girly correspondent, Courtney Mathus.

Stephen: So... hey there, guys. Let's get down to the questions, shall we?
Courtney: Omigodomigodomigod!!!! JOEY!!!!
(***Courtney rushed up and leapt into the bearded guy's arms***)
Stephen: Courtney? Are you okay?
Courtney: AAAAAAAAHH!! MARRY MEEEE!!
Stephen: Anyway, on to the questions. You there, with the dreadlocks and ski goggles. Do you know what shame is? Are you capable of feeling it?
(***He turned to Courtney for his response.***)
Dreadlocks: Baby, baby, baby, I feel shame that I can't hook up wit' you.
Stephen: I'll mark that as a "no." So no offense or anything, but lots of little girls think all of you are hot. I personally violently disagree, but in all of your opinions, who's the "cute one?"
All: **I am!**
(***This response seemed to anger the group, and they began to scream really high and screechy and sorta swat at each other. I think they were supposed to be fighting.***)
Courtney: AAAAHH! YOU ARE ALL SO HOT!!!
Stephen: Heh, heh. My job is done here. Let's go, Courtney... *Courtney?*
Courtney: BOYS!!!!! AAAH!!!!!!
Bearded guy: Baby, we all love you. Let's all stop fightin' so we can get to know her better, guys.
(***I was unable to pry Courtney off of the guy with the little blond afro, so I hopped back onto the official RBW bicycle and left.***)

photo courtesy of nsync.com



Redbirds Slipping on Winning Season

By Audrey Hinrichs
Business Editor

Disappointingly, the Redbird Hockey Club is off to a slow start this winter. The team is winless in their first two games with a (4-3) loss to Granite City, and a (5-5) tie with Marquette.

The Redbirds came out strong in the opening minutes of the first game and seemed to have things under control. They got on the board first when senior Eric Heischmidt scored.

The Warriors came back at 3:26 in the first with a goal to tie the game at one. Just 19 seconds later, freshman Tommy Lester snapped a shot into the top right corner to regain the lead. With 1:35 left in the first, Granite tied the game again at two and later both teams scored leaving the game at three all. Granite City later put a notch in the win column when Craig Wright scored his second goal of the night at 9:11 in the third.

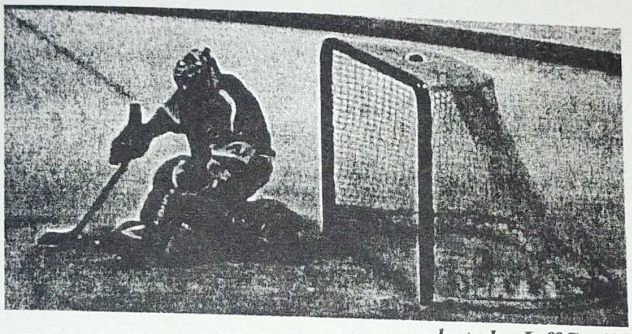


photo by Jeff Saville

Alton's juvenile force on offense proved to exist the second game as all five of the Redbirds' goals came from underclassmen. Sophomore Patrick Reed proved himself early, scoring two goals in the first to give Alton a two goal lead. The first at 7:42 from Lester and again at 5:29 from Heischmidt.

The Redbirds dominated the first period until the 2:45 mark when Marquette scored, acting as a wakeup call for the Redbirds. The Explorers struck first in the second with a goal past goalie, Gary Cox.

Then, just a minute and 49 seconds later sophomore Tim Demunbrun shot and scored on a pass from Lester.

The Explorers again countered the Redbirds attack keeping the cross-town rivalry exciting as Marquette scored at 4:31 in the second.

The sophomore line of Lester, Martin, and Demunbrun kept the fire burning as Demunbrun and Lester hooked up again with under a minute to go in the second giving Alton a one goal lead.

The third went scoreless until 7:44 when freshman Nick Whittman buried the puck in a semi-empty net created by a quick pass from Tommy Lester. At this point the Redbirds started to utilize their fresh, third l ine players.

However, the third line proved to be cold, letting Marquette score, putting them within one. The Redbirds held together keeping the puck in the Explorers zone for most of the remaining time.

With 10 seconds to go, the Explorers were in pursuit of a Redbird defeat. Marquette lost the puck. Luckily, the puck wound up on his teammates stick. The shot was stopped by Cox, but a rushing Explorer poked the rebound for a goal with only 4.3 seconds left.

Class of 2001 Remain Powder Puff Champs

By Laura Smock
Photographer

Public School Stadium was once again filled with the hoots and hollers of Alton High School football fans. Instead of the usual grunts and groans of the boys' football team, however, the yips and cries of this year's Powder Puff team could be heard.

On November 10, the junior and senior girls of AHS took the field ready for battle in the annual Powder Puff game.

Juniors kicked off the 10 minute quarter of the night. Immediately taking action, Senior My'shia Walker scored a touchdown. By half-time the seniors were still leading 7-0.

Providing laughs at half-time was the teachers' pom squad. Teachers Dennis Cook, Gayle York, George Wolke, Coach Joe Hook, Tricia Blackard, and Laura Lauschke, performed a kick line, much to the enjoyment of the stadium.

Mr. Cook was selected for another prize. As winner of the most audience applause, he was chosen to "smooch the pooch" and good-naturedly planted a kiss on the nose of a puppy brought in for the occasion. Following this emotional ordeal, the teachers were then treated to a limo escorted night on the town.

During the second half the juniors proved to be no match for the seniors' defensive line. The game ended 7-0 and the seniors captured their second Powder Puff victory in two years.

Senior team coach Jeremy Linley was surprised by his team's conquest. "I thought that the senior team would have won by a lot more than we did. I guess we underestimated the junior team." Linley summed the game up by saying, "Overall, it was a good game for both teams."

Boys' Basketball Prepares to Tip-Off

By Keion Lacey

The 2000-2001 boys' basketball season has finally started and the team seems to be ready for it.

The boys' basketball team practiced throughout the summer. They played in an SIUE team camp and received first place. The team placed fifth at a tournament in Centralia out of 24 teams. Also the team received second at a tournament in Belleville out of 16 teams.

"I think that we are going to be good this year. We will probably be better than last year," said senior guard Blaine Everage.

The season begins with the Alton Tip-off Classic. For the past four years Alton has placed first in this tournament. Teams that will compete in the tip-off will be the Cahokia Comanches, Granite City Warriors, Jersey Panthers, Mount Vernon Rams and the Springfield Southeast Spartans.

The Redbirds will compete in two more tournaments this season. The boys' basketball team will play in the Centralia Holiday Tournament on December 27-29. Last year the team won Consolation Champs. Also they will be in the Traid tournament on Janurary 16-20. The team will compete to remain tournament champs for a second year in a row.

"I think that we can compete with any team we come up against this season," said Alton Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach Mike Brey.

The Redbirds first regular season game will be on December 1 against St. Louis High School, Junior Billikens, at St. Louis High School.

Last season the boys' basketball team finished with a record of 20-11. The Redbirds tied for fifth place in the conference with a record of 5-7.

"Our goal for this season is to win state," said senior guard Blaine Everage.

Girls' Basketball Shoots for Winning Record

By Stephanie Wright
Sports Editor

The Alton girls basketball team has finally tipped off another season.

The season began with the fourth annual "Lady" Redbird Tip-Off Classic. Teams that competed in this tournament were the Cahokia Comanches, Granite City Warriors, Waterloo Bulldogs, Marquette Explorers and the Civic Memorial Eagles.

The team will compete in two other tournaments this season. They will participate in the Quincy Tournament on November 24-25 and the Carrollton Tournament on January 20-27.

"I hope that we can all work together as a team this year," said sophomore Michelle McCrady.

This year the team has a new Junior Varsity coach, Cathy Snipes. Snipes has been the freshman coach for the past three years.

Last year the team finished with a record of 4-23.

"We hope to have a 500 record in the Southwestern Conference this season," said Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach Terry Mitchell.

photos by Stephanie Wright

Sophomore Michelle McCrady shoots the ball while senior Christianne Beck attempts to block her shot.

RBW's Top Fall Athletes

By: Jeff Saville, Sports Editor
Stephanie Wright, Senior Editor
Derek Allen, Senior Editor

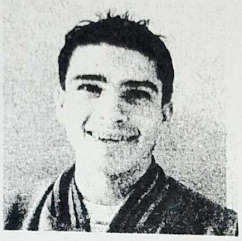
We at the RedBird Word would like to take this opportunity to honor this year's Top Fall Athletes.

Football

Zach Wooley, senior

Wooley was the unanimous choice for top football player. He passed for 1,112 yards this season, giving him three consecutive 1,000 yard seasons.

Boys' Cross Country



Joe Walker, senior

Walker finished off his four-year career with a 77th place finish at Sectionals. His best time this season was 16:50 in the 3.1 mile run.

Girls' Cross Country

Rachel Sidwell, senior

Sidwell was the leader of the girls' team that made it to Sectionals. Her best time this year was 16:07 in the 2.5 mile run.

Boys' Golf

Tyler Dunn, sophomore

Dunn was the Redbirds' sharpshooter at the State Tournament. He finished 21st with a two-day score of 159.

Girls' Golf

Carey Cappel, sophomore

Cappel was the lone star for the Lady Redbirds this season, winning the Southwestern Conference Individual Championship.

Girls' Tennis

Christina Sidwell, sophomore

Sidwell was definitely the "ace" of the Lady Redbirds squad this year. She won 14 matches in just her second year on the Varsity squad.

Soccer

Dylan Bechtold, senior

Bechtold was a scoring machine for the Redbirds this season. He scored 18 goals and dished out 12 assists.

Volleyball

Tricia Bock, sophomore

Bock has played for the Varsity team since her freshman year. She was a vital part of the Redbirds' success this season.

Cheerleading

Laura Smock, senior

Smock was a leader both on and off the field, risking her own safety at this year's Homecoming game and then returning to finish the season out..

Cuddle Up With Courtney

By: Courtney Mathus

Important December Dates

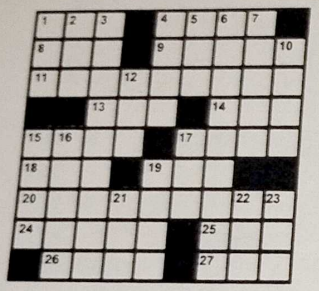
December 2,3- Olde Alton Arts & Craft Fair at AHS
December 9- ACT Test
December 7- Winter Choral Concert 7:30 p.m.
December 16- Christmas Dance 8-11 p.m.
December 18- Winter Band Concert 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 22- Jan.1- Christmas Vacation

Any way you look at it....

An anagram is a word or phrase made by rearranging the letters of another word or phrase. Can you come up with any?

Dormitory	Dirty Room
The Morse Code	Here Come Dots
Slot Machines	Cash Lost In 'Em
The Public Art Galleries	Large Picture Halls
A Decimal Point	I'm a Dot In Place
Eleven Plus Two	Twelve Plus One
Astronomer	Moon Starer
Year Two Thousand	A Year To Shut Down

Crossword puzzle



ACROSS

1. Sticky tree substance.
4. Guides to show the way there.
8. The length of time something (or someone) has existed.
9. Get used to something
11. Postponements
13. Water in the solid state
14. Confederate soldier
15. Written in a study hall
17. Doorstep activity
18. A corporation's first offer to sell stock to the public
19. Popular PC graphics file format
20. Not really from here
24. Chosen from or preferred above others
25. Just a little bit
26. Dumbo's were big
27. Bulky grayish-brown eagle with a short wedge-shaped white tail

DOWN

1. ___ Adams, U.S. President
2. Once upon a time, long, long ___
3. Serosas
4. Companion
5. Much ___ About Nothing
6. The crime of killing your parents
7. Secret agents
10. Checks
12. One of four cards in a deck having a single spot
15. One more than eight and one less than 10
16. City in Poland
17. Bag with needed ingredients
19. Lightly touches shoulder with hand
21. Company that rings receipts
22. Volt-ampere
23. The compass point that is one point north of due east

Horoscopes

Aries (March 21- April 19): Even though you broke off the big half of the wishbone, I'm sorry but your wish isn't going to happen.

Taurus (April 20- May 20): I know mom and dad said they would buy that dream car for you, but they just said that so you'd stop whining. Just wait and see what "suprise" they will have in the driveway for you.

Gemini (May 21- June 20): Be careful what you ask for!

Cancer (June 21- July 22): This is your month to open new doors. Go change your normal routine. Maybe you will even meet new people.

Leo (July 23- Aug. 22): Don't talk about other people. Even though you don't think so, it hurts their feelings.

Virgo (Aug. 23- Sept. 22): Make sure you throw a party when your parents leave this month. Trust me, you will not regret it. (Even when you get grounded.)

Libra (Sept. 23- Oct. 22): Make sure you invest those energy vibes into that project due next month. That way you won't be up until three that night.

Scorpio (Oct. 23- Nov. 21): Give up that bad habit you have. You may not know it, but it really bothers your honey.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22- Dec. 21): After Thanksgiving, you might want to consider joining a health club.

Capricorn (Dec. 22- Jan. 19): An undescribable urge hits you to look back on all your accomplishments. You will challenge your present accomplishments to out do your past ones.

Aquarius (Jan. 20- Feb. 18): Make sure to plan some "me" time this month. You may need it before you stress out when the holidays come.

Pisces (Feb. 19- March 20): You will be introduced to a hottie this month through mutual friends. Make sure you keep in touch.